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Report of the Adjutant-General

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Report of the Adjutant General 1876

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REPORT

OF THE

ADJUTANT GENERAL.

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STATE OF COLORADO,
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
DENVER, October 21, 1876.

To His Excellency, JOHN L. ROUTT, *Governor:*

SIR:—I have the honor to present to your Excellency the following report of the Adjutant General's Office:

MILITIA.

Since my last report, (made December 31, 1875,) two companies of militia have been organized, one at Sterling, Weld county, named the "Sterling Scouts," and the other at Colorado Springs, El Paso county, the latter to take the place of the "Pike's Peak Rangers," whose term of service had expired. Both of these are cavalry companies. The present organized and armed military force of the State is therefore as follows: *Two companies of infantry, two companies of cavalry*, and "*The Mitchell Guards*," a private military corporation of the city of Denver, who are armed with Springfield B. L. Muskets, and who by law are "at all times subject to the command of the Governor." The military establishment would doubtless be increased by several companies if we could furnish arms for them. The Germans of Denver desire to organize a cavalry company, and the colored people of Denver desire to form an infantry company if we could arm and equip them, and, knowing how heartily both nationalities enter into such matters, I am confident that the companies would be an honor to the

city and State and a real source of dependence in case of trouble; but while we cannot even supply any new companies with arms, to say nothing of fully equipping and uniforming them, (which I believe we ought to do for all our soldiers) there is but little encouragement for any one to make special efforts looking towards the organization of new military companies.

On the 15th of August an armed body of masked men boarded the Colorado Central Railroad train and took therefrom by force of arms, His Honor, Judge Stone, who was on his way to Boulder county for the purpose of holding court. Fearing that further obstructions would be placed in the way of holding court, the "Governor's Guards," of Denver, were ordered out to assist in keeping the peace and to rescue Judge Stone from his captors. Fortunately the Judge was quickly released, and no further demonstrations against law and order being made, there was no collision, and the Guards returned to their homes. I wish to call your Excellency's attention to the promptness and alacrity which the Guards displayed in leaving their business and homes to obey your orders.

With this exception the services of the militia have not been required, though the necessity of having well armed and efficient military companies in different parts of the State has been several times illustrated since my last report, notably, when in July prior to the arming of the "Sterling Scouts," a band of Sioux Indians raided the northern part of Weld county, killing three men and running off considerable stock, and again, in the early part of the present month, when intelligence was received of a threatened outbreak of the Indians in La Plata county.

Since the arming of the "Sterling Scouts," their portion of the State has been nearly if not quite free from hostile Indians, and the General Government has sent troops for the protection of our southern border. Probably a good militia company in Parrott City would overawe the Indians and facilitate the settlement of that section of the State.

ROSTER OF GENERAL AND STAFF OFFICERS, OCTOBER 21, 1876.

RANK.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.	OFFICE.	DATE OF COMMIS'N.	REMARKS.
Governor.	John L. Routt, .	Denver, . .	Com'd'r-in-Chief		
Colonel, .	Robert S. Roe, .	Denver, . . .	Adj't General, .	Feb. 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Colonel, .	E. B. Sopris, . .	Las Animas, .	Insp'r General,	Feb 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Maj. Gen'l,	David J. Cook, .	Denver, . . .	Com'd'g 1st Div.	Feb. 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Major, . .	Wm. A. Smith, .	Denver, . . .	Q. M. "	Aug. 7, '75,	Staff of Maj. Gen. Cook.
Major, . .	Edw. J. Burke, .	Denver, . . .	Com. "	Aug. 7, '75,	
Major, . .	Wm. D. Todd, .	Denver, . . .	Insp'r "	Aug. 7, '75,	
Major, . .	Jos. F. Bailey, .	Denver, . . .	Pay M. "	Aug. 7, '75,	
Major, . .	Jas. F. Watson, .	Denver, . . .	A. D. C. "	Aug. 7, '75,	
Brig. Gen'l	Wm. M. Clark, .	Georgetown, .		Feb. 11, '76,	Re-appoin'd
Brig. Gen'l	J. L. Brush, . .	Weld County,		Feb. 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Maj. Gen'l	M. H. Fitch, . .	Pueblo, . . .	2d Division, . .	Feb. 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Brig. Gen'l	Ben. F. Crowell,	El Paso Co., .	2d Division, . .	Feb. 11, '76.	Re-appoin'd
Brig. Gen'l	John C. McBride,	Las Animas, .	2d Division, . .	Feb. 11, '76.	

ROSTER OF MILITIA, OCTOBER 21, 1876.

OFFICERS.		COMPANIES.	LOCATION.	ARMS.	STRENGTH.
Captain,	Jas. Noonan,	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
1st Lieut	J. A. Delahanty	Emmett Guards, . .	Central City, .	Spencer	60
2d Lieut.	T. F. Welch,	. . . . .	. . . . .	Rifles,	. . . . .
Captain,	A. H. Jones,	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
1st Lieut	J. F. Thompson	Governor's Guards,	Denver, . . .	Springfield	41
2d Lieut.	S. A. Shepperd,	. . . . .	. . . . .	B. L. mus-	. . . . .
Captain,	S. S. Kempton,	. . . . .	. . . . .	kets.	. . . . .
1st Lieut	. . . . .	Sterling Scouts, . .	Sterling, ...	Spencer	40
2d Lieut.	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	Carbines,	. . . . .
Captain,	T. H. Burnham	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
1st Lieut	J. W. Fairfield,	Pike's Peak Rangers	Colorado Springs	Spencer	50
2d Lieut.	Delos Durfee,	. . . . .	. . . . .	Carbines,	. . . . .
Captain,	Ed. J. Burke,	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
1st Lieut	Jas. Conway,	Mitchell Guards, . .	Denver, . . .	Spr'g'd B.	32
2d Lieut.	Cor. O. Rourke,	. . . . .	. . . . .	L. muskets	. . . . .

ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES.

Below you will find a statement of the number and kind of ordnance and ordnance stores remaining in my possession at this date, and also the number and kind of arms and equipments which have been issued to the different companies and officers of the militia.

In order to arm the Emmett Guards of Central City I recalled the twenty-five Spencer rifles which had been issued to the High School Squad of Denver, which enabled me with what I had on hand to fully supply them. At a little expense I fitted bayonets to the guns and thus equipped them with very good and presentable arms. I had to purchase a few bayonet scabbards, which I bought of one of our gunsmiths for seventy-five cents apiece, a reasonable price.

The Sterling Scouts I armed with the Spencer carbines and equipments complete.

At the time of the Indian troubles in the northeastern part of the State, when the settlers were very uneasy and much alarmed, I sent to Brigadier General J. L. Brush, at Greeley, twenty-five Spencer rifles and twenty-five Spencer carbines which were recalled from Golden and the School of Mines. These were to be issued only in case of absolute necessity, and then to well organized companies if possible. These arms are doubtless stored in Greeley subject to your orders.

The High School Squad has been supplied with some of the unserviceable muzzle loading Springfield muskets and bayonets which are lighter and better for their use than the Spencer rifle, which they formerly had.

I would respectfully suggest that your Excellency urge upon the Honorable Senators and Representative in Congress from our State the propriety of trying to secure legislation looking toward the cancelling of our indebtedness to the government for arms heretofore issued to the Territory of Colorado, and to our being supplied with what

arms and equipments we need. A battery of light artillery and one thousand stand of Springfield muskets and carbines would probably be all we should require for some years to come.

STATEMENT OF ORDNANCE STORES ISSUED BY ROBERT S. ROE, ADJUTANT GENERAL OF COLORADO.

TO WHOM ISSUED.	Springfield B. L. Muskets.	Spencer Rifles.	Spencer Carbines.	Cavalry Sabres.	Cavalry Sabre Belts.	Cartridge Boxes.	Carbine Slings.	Bayonets,	Bayonet Scabbards.	Infantry Belts,	Infantry Belt Plates.	Brush and T. Wipers.	Screw Drivers.	Springfield M. L. Muskets.
Governor's Guards, ...	69	. .	.	.	.	. .	. .	25	25	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .
Emmett Guards, ...	.	60	.	.	.	60	. .	60	62	60	60	60	60	.
Sterling Scouts, ...	.	. .	44	3	3	50	50	. .	. .	50	50	50	50	.
Pike's Peak Rangers, ...	.	. .	50	4	4	50	50	. .	. .	48	45	. .	. .	.
High School Squad, ...	.	. .	.	.	.	. .	. .	25	. .	25	25	. .	. .	25
Emerald Rifles, ...	.	. .	.	.	.	. .	. .	25	. .	. .	. .	. .	. .	.
Brig. Gen. J. L. Brush, . . .	.	50	.	.	.	. .	. .	. .	. .	50	50	. .	. .	.
Total issued, ...	69	110	94	7	7	160	100	135	87	233	230	110	110	25

RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND ORDNANCE STORES,

FOR WHICH ROBERT S. ROE, *Adjutant General*, IS RESPONSIBLE, OCTOBER 21, 1876.

DATE.	No. of Invoice.	OCTOBER 21, 1876.	SERVICEABLE		UNSERVICEABLE.					SERVICEABLE		UNSERVIC'B'E		SERVICEABLE			
			Spencer Carbines, cal. 50	Spencer Rifles, cal. 50	Springfield Rifles, breech loading.	Springfield Rifles, muzzle loading.	Austrian and Belgian Muskets.	Warner's, etc., Rifles.	Carbines.	Sabres, Cavalry.	Sabre belts and plates, do.	Sabres, do.	Sabre belts and plates, do.	Carbine sling belts, do.	Carbine cartridge boxes, do.	Swivels, Cavalry.	Thong and brush wipers.
1876.		Remaining on hand, last return,	48	37	. . .	. . 194 . .	. . .	31	37	48	17	. . .	704	874	475	375
June,	12	Rec'd from Jarvis Hall Cadets	. . .	25	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
June,	12	Rec' from Capt. Smith, Golden	. . .	25	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Feb'y,	1	Rec'd from High School Squads	. . .	25	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
		Purchased	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
		Total to be accounted for	48	112	. . .	. . 194 . .	. . .	31	37	48	17	. . .	704	874	475	375
	No. of Voucher.																
1876.																	
Feb'y,	1	Issued to Emmett Guards . . .	. . .	60	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	60	. . .	60
May,	27	Issued to Sterling Scouts . . .	44	. . .	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	3	3	. . .	. . .	50	50	. . .	50	
Feb'y,	1	Issued to High School Squad .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . 25 . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
June,	12	Issued to Brig. Gen. J. L. Brush	. . .	50	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Feb'y,	28	Issued to H. C. Philbrook . . .	2	. . .	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
Oct.,	15	Issued to Governor's Guards .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . . . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .	. . .
		Total issued, expended, etc. .	46	110	. . .	. . 25 . .	. . .	. . .	3	3	. . .	. . .	50	110	. . .	110	
		Remaining on hand . . .	2	2	. . .	. . 169 . .	. .	31	34	45	17	. . .	654	764	475	265	

DATE.	No. of Invoice.	OCTOBER 21, 1876.	Wiping rods.	Screw drivers.	Sword bayonets.	Sword bayonet scabbards.	SERVICEABLE. Bayonets, Infantry.	Bayonet scabbards, do.	Waist belts, do.	Cartridge boxes, do.	Cap pouches, do.	Waist belt plates, do.	Sword bayonet scabbards—unserviceable.	AMMUNITION. Met. ball cartridges for Spencer carbines, cal. 50.	Met. ball cartridges for Springfield rifle, cal. 50.
1876.		Remaining on hand, last return,	30	500	4	301	201	33	701	75	301	885	63	700	
June,	12	Rec'd from Jarvis Hall Cadets,							25			25			
June,	12	Rec'd from Capt, Smith, Golden,							25			25			
Feb'y,	1	Rec'd from High School Squads,													
		Purchased,						54							1000
		Total to be accounted for	30	500	4	301	201	87	751	75	301	935	63	700	1000
	No. of Voucher.														
1876.															
Feb'y,	1	Issued to Emmett Guards,		60			60	62	60			60			
May,	27	Issued to Sterling Scouts,		50					50			50			
Feb'y,	1	Issued to High School Squad,					25		25			25			
June,	12	Issued to Brig. Gen. J. L. Brush,							50			50			
Feb'y,	28	Issued to H. C. Philbrook,													
Oct.,	15	Issued to Governor's Guards,					25	25						700	1000
		Total issued, expended, etc.,		110			110	87	185			185		700	1000
		Remaining on hand,	30	390	4	301	91		166	75	301	750	63		

RECORDS.

I am sorry to be obliged to report that the records of the Colorado soldiers who fought in the late war are still in the same incomplete condition that they were at my last report. I wrote to the Adjutant General of the army, at Washington, asking for copies of the missing muster rolls, but received a reply stating that copies of muster rolls were only furnished to those States which gave bounties to their soldiers.

I presume that much of the missing information could be obtained from the late officers of the First and Second regiments of Colorado volunteers, but the last Territorial Legislature made *no provision* for the expenses of my office, and I did not feel justified in going to any expense at this present time for this object. There should however, as soon as possible, be an effort made to complete these records, for the longer the matter is delayed the less likelihood is there of my being able to obtain the required papers and documents.

MILITIA LAW.

The present militia law is a very unsatisfactory one in many respects—especially so in the provision for enrolling the militia, for calling out the militia in case of insurrection or invasion, and for collecting the military fund.

I hope to present my views on this subject to your Excellency in the draft of a new law in time for its consideration by the State Legislature about to convene, should it meet with your approval. I had expected to have enclosed it herewith, but not having been able to give the time and thought to the subject which it deserves and not having sufficient knowledge of the laws of other States, I must take a little more time ere I can satisfy myself in this matter.

In conclusion, I have the honor to be, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

ROBERT S. ROE,
Adjutant General.